COMMUNITY

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Southwest Greenway una nueva vía ecológica

Enlaza la ribera del río Detroit con Michigan Central, Mexicantown, Corktown y las colonias del suroeste de Detroit

Por Personal de EL CENTRAL

Una nueva joya ha sido pulida y añadida al precioso collar de espacios públicos que rodean los vecindarios de la ciudad de Detroit, representando una inversión histórica que crea un mayor acceso a la ribera del río para los residentes del suroeste de Detroit.

El miércoles 24 de mayo, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy (DRFC) invitó a los funcionarios de la ciudad, el estado y el condado, a los financiadores del proyecto y a los residentes, a la inauguración oficial de Southwest Greenway, un sendero pavimentado para caminar y andar en bicicleta que va desde Ralph C. Wilson , el parque Jr. Centennial en West Jefferson hasta la calle Bagley. Ésta vía verde conecta la ribera del río Detroit con Michigan Central y Joe Louis Greenway; uniendo al río con los vecindarios circundantes, específicamente Mexicantown y Corktown, brindando un fácil acceso y un hermoso espacio público para los residentes y visitantes.

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Southwest Greenway Opens as Detroit's Newest Public Space

New link connects the Detroit Riverfront with Michigan Central, Mexicantown, Corktown and Southwest Detroit neighborhoods

By EL CENTRAL Staff

A new jewel has been polished and added to the precious necklace of public spaces that encircle the neighborhoods across the city of Detroit, and this latest link represents an historic investment that creates greater access to the riverfront for the residents of Southwest Detroit.

On Wednesday, May 24, the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy (DRFC) invited city, state and county officials, project funders and Detroit residents to celebrate the official opening of the Southwest Greenway, a paved walking trail and bike path running from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park on West Jefferson to Bagley Street. The greenway connects the Detroit Riverfront to Michigan Central and the Joe Louis Greenway. The greenway will connect the riverfront to surrounding neighborhoods – specifically Mexicantown and Corktown – providing easy access and a beautiful public space for Detroit residents and visitors.

"The grand opening of the Southwest Greenway is the perfect occasion to celebrate the tremendous progress of the Unified Greenway Campaign, which will complete and sustain the Detroit Riverfront and Joe Louis Greenway for generations," said Matt Cullen, Chairman, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy and architect of the Unified Greenway Campaign.

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Southwest Detroit resident and member of the Joe Louis Greenway Advisory Council Ru Shann Long officially opens the SW Greenway by cutting the ribbon surrounded by, from left, Detroit Council President Mary Sheffield; Gilbert Family Foundation Executive Director Laura Grannemann; Deputy Director for Prosperity for the State of Michigan Kim Trent; Detroit Riverfront Conservancy Chairman Matt Cullen; Ford Motor Company Fund President Mary Culler; Detroit Riverfront Conservancy President & CEO Mark Wallace; Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan; William Davidson Foundation President & CEO Darren McKeever and Chief Financial Officer, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, William Smith. Photo by Kopalli Media/Alejandro Ugalde

The Honorable Patricia Perez Fresard: Michigan's First Hispanic Chief Judge

By Hon. Patricia Perez Fresard

As the new chief judge of the Third Circuit Court, I am often asked why I accepted this position at this time. It's a daunting task: we seek to bring a workforce decimated by COVID and in dire need of resources and funding back to on-site work for optimal court service to our community and best access to justice. But I am exhilarated by the prospect of working with partners to restructure and revamp the court using new technology and the personal service and work ethic that the Wayne County Circuit Court team prides itself on.

As the largest and busiest court in the state, we were hit hardest by COVID's forced shutdown of jury trials. With a decimated workforce, we face the task of addressing the backlogs and restructuring while also opening the doors to our courtrooms. We also strive to integrate remote hearings from our courtrooms where appropriate, offering expediency and efficiency along with physical presence to ensure court users have phone calls answered and the access to courts the public deserves.

I came to Detroit at age three as an immigrant from Quito, Ecuador. My parents, a neurologist and a nurse, brought their four young daughters here to provide a life of opportunity and to give back what we could. My dad served to his own highest ability, spending years in research and then as a professor at Wayne State University, leaving for private practice in time to afford college for his then five children. The emphasis on striving to pull others up was clear and unrelenting.

Since my childhood I was fascinated by lawyers, litigation, and courts, as well as social justice through laws that serve to structure a path to equal justice. Admiration for the boldness, intellect, charisma and integrity it takes to advocate as an attorney led me to become a prosecutor advocating mostly for abused women and children, a fulfilling but emotionally draining career. I ran for judge with a goal to strive for better opportunity to be heard for all people in court and for equal justice for all.

My desire to render just results in a forum affording personal opportunity to be heard and attain justice for a cause is the reason I never aspired to appellate courts. While I could happily serve in a trial judge capacity alone, the difficult but challenging prospect of being a part of making real impact through positive changes called me to step up to the challenge and serve to my highest capacity.

My Personal and Family History

My personal history, as a Latina immigrant, wife, mother, artist, litigator and judge, is such to engender humility, empathy, and a strong work ethic. I am as dedicated to disprove negative stereotypes as I am cognizant of the fact of equality of people under the eyes of God and of the law. My parents spoke integrity and demonstrated courage in leaving all that they knew and loved to give four little girls a better life.

My husband Donn has dedicated his career to public service as Chief Assistant Prosecutor in Wayne and Macomb Counties. As a past President of this Detroit Bar Association, Donn's work was unprecedented in increasing membership, funds, and innovative initiatives.

Donn Fresard has been, as his mother Bernice describes, kind and generous to all—but most of all, to me. His support, encouragement, and enormous charisma and salesmanship brought victory in a judicial election that my colleague Judge James Chylinski described at the time as the toughest judicial race and biggest names he had seen, one that he predicted I had no chance to win. Jimmy joined forces with me after the primary; Donn personally obtained over 5,000 petition signatures and most of the fundraising to will my campaign not only to a win but to take first place in a field of a dozen.

Our slogan was "Fresard First for Families," as mine has always been paramount in my life, and we are dedicated to supporting families throughout our community. Our children have brought enormous joy to our lives and as adults they continue to enrich us with their spirit and presence as we are blessed to have them all living in very close proximity.

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The Honorable Patricia Perez Fresard, Chief Judge, Third Circuit Court

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Michigan's First Hispanic Chief Judge

Con't from pg. 1

Donn, our oldest, having served as Editor of the Michigan Daily in college, ran the campaign of my pack of 20 judges contested in 2010. An excellent writer, entrepreneur, and cook, he brings a wealth of knowledge and the best bread in the world to our regular family Sunday dinner. Joey, our second son, an attorney with Simasko Law in Mt. Clemens, is as amazing as a lawyer as he is as a husband to beloved Corrine and father to baby Theodora. He is also a leader and giver serving on the St. Clair Shores school board and Cool City Chair, as well as with Catholic Lawyers.

Our daughter Amanda has brought great joy to our family from her first breath, and continues to do so as wife to Mickey McCullough, our beloved son-in-law and new partner with Sommers Schwartz. Amanda is an amazing loving mom to their baby Lucy and in addition runs the nonprofit Love One Another, which has donated Easter baskets for our community's children in need for six years. This year they provided bountiful Easter holiday to over 600 kids.

Raising my own three children—and seeing through the years parents who have lost theirs to both sides of crime— has fostered in me a deep commitment to detach from the ranks of unsalvageable felons, whose violent crimes call for prison, those who can be and should be supported and directed to a better path. I have experienced disadvantage, challenge, abundance, and opportunity. I have known life in South America and in the United States of America. I have felt enormous fulfillment in being a witness to and a part of contributing to change in individuals, in our court, and in our community.

I am immensely grateful for this opportunity to serve Wayne County Circuit Court as Chief Judge.

Our wonderful Executive Court Administration Team and bench of dedicated and talented Judges are leaders who join me in gratitude for all of our court employees. They bring pride to our court in their work ethic and the concern and empathy they demonstrate to jurors and to our community of court users. Running the best court in the state takes a team effort, and our co-workers are servant leaders who understand that true fulfillment in public service comes from serving others with dedication. They strive to make every court experience one that instills belief in the opportunity to be heard and to receive equal justice.

As a lifelong painter, I am pleased to be able to now seek charities ancillary to our court work that can benefit by donating art to raise money for urgent causes, such as assisting needy youths with scholarships and in

Hon. Patricia Fresard with husband Donn and children Joey, Amanda and Donn.

treating addictions and mental health issues that bring rise to crime.

I welcome your requests and ideas for implementing fundraising around donated paintings and commissions.

By giving voice to vulnerable victims, a chance to those seeking rehabilitation, and a fair and full hearing to all who appear before me, I endeavor to reflect appreciation for the extraordinary opportunities afforded to me. As a judge, I subscribe to a philosophy of equal justice, keeping faith with the Constitution, and that it is imperative to retain judicial independence while accepting wisdom, in all its elusiveness, wherever and whenever it comes.

Community Design: The Detroit Creative Society Names Winners for Logo Competition

By Juanita Zuniga

The Detroit Creative Society recently announced winners from their Logo competition that took place earlier this year.

The collective, which is based at Congress of Communities with a partnership between Southwest Solutions and the Michigan Central Train Station, started last year around June 2022. The collective, comprised of youth from all over Southwest Detroit ages 14-25, aims to foster and uplift local artists and talents in the community to provide the platform local creatives need to grow.

"The Detroit Creative Society is a direct result of youth and young adults that care and want to be able to shape the future, not just for themselves, but for the generations to come," said Flor Hernandez, ambassador for the Detroit Creative Society and Stakeholders Council.

Through the notion of shaping the future and uplifting creatives, the Detroit Creative Society released their competition earlier this year for a logo that represents Southwest's creative and community-building aspects overall. Winners would receive a prize, their logo featured on merchandise, and even media space to share their work.

Fortunately, after receiving numerous submissions, they were able to decide on first and second-place winners. The first-place winner is Ximena Arriaga, whose submission will be featured as the Detroit Creative Society's logo, also received a cash prize award of $500 and a gift basket of locally produced products.

The second-place winner, Colleen Crongeyer, received a $250 cash prize and a local gift basket, as well. Both of their submissions portrayed Detroit in a significant and nostalgic way. Which is exactly what the Detroit Creative Society was looking for.

"I think it is a really good reflection of our community and just shows how bright and lively our community is," said Hernandez

And, for the Detroit Creative Society, it was really important to showcase that and have a logo created by someone in the Southwest community.

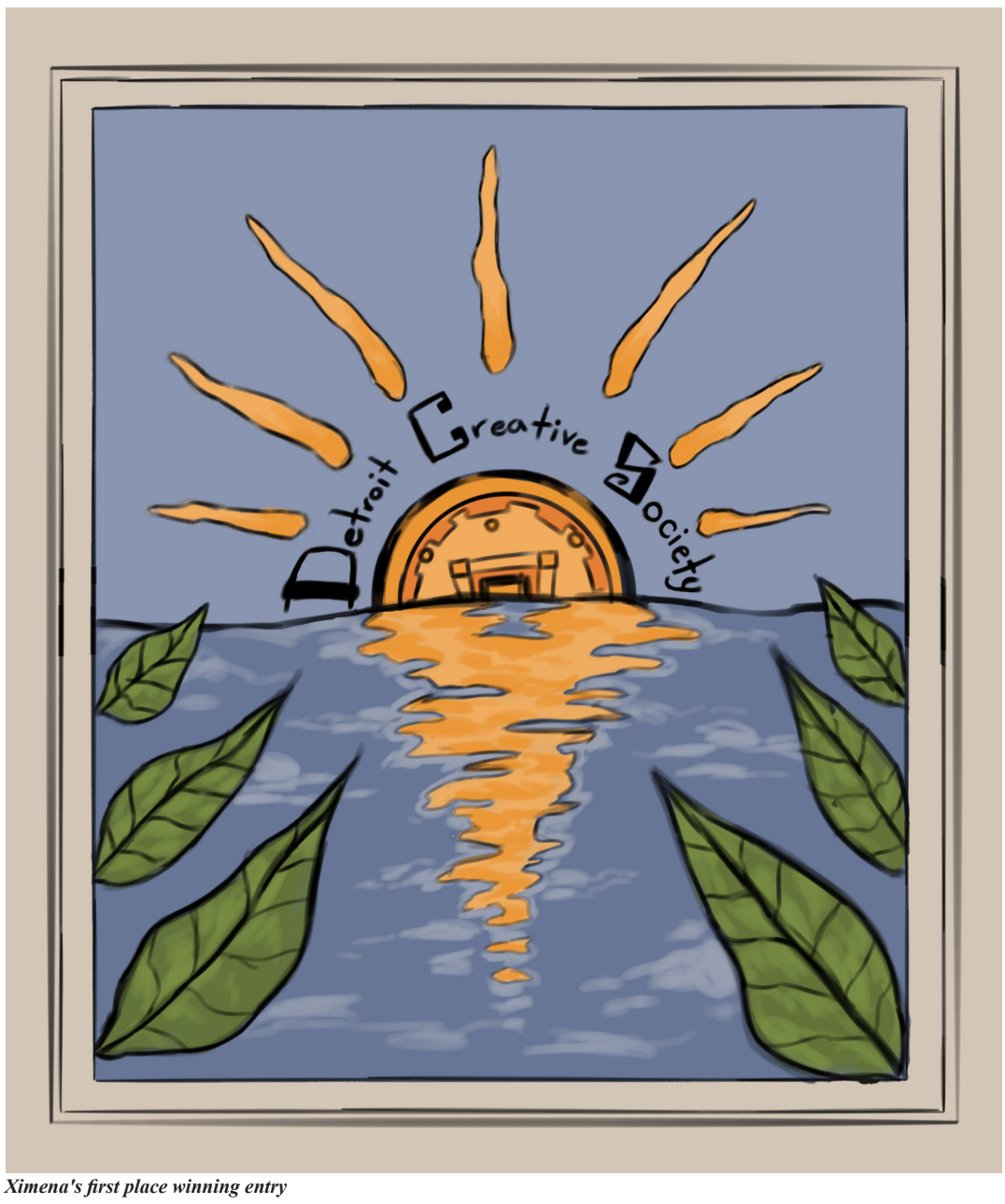
"It's more authentic to us, and really shows our Detroit roots by uplifting local artists," said Cathy Ali, a member of the Detroit Creative Society.

To learn more about The Detroit Creative Society and their future plans and events to support local artists you can follow the collective on Instagram @swcreatesdetroit.

Juanita Zuniga is a graduate of Kalamazoo College with a degree in Anthropology/Sociology and English. She was born and raised in SW Detroit and still resides here today. She is very passionate about her community and hopes to serve her community through writing. Juanita is a Latin history and music enthusiast in her spare time. She is also a Cancer sun, Libra moon, and Cancer Rising.

Ximena Arriaga, logo contest first place winner

Detroit Creative Society at COC Community House



Ximena's first place winning entry

Andy Alonzo Releases "The Latin Counts – The Lost Tapes"

By: Ozzie Rivera

In 2022 while going through his archives Andy Alonzo found some recorded tapes of his time with the famed, yet often unheralded singing group, the Latin Counts. He set about exploring what was on them. The tapes were in pretty good shape and had been laying around his house since being recorded in 1985.

At first he thought they could have been recorded during one of the group's WDET radio station sessions. Thus, he went to his good friend Joe Gilles of the band Mando Cane who let him know they were 8 track recordings. This then led him to go to K&R Studios where he was informed they were top quality studio recordings. He set on refining the product and will now release them within the upcoming month or so as "The Latin Counts-Lost Tapes". On the recording he is joined on vocals by John Dominquez, Sal Prado, and Stu Avig. James Anton is on bass, Baby Pepper on drums, DeForest Stewart on Sax, Van Cepheus on keys and Gordy Mazlowski on guitar.

I sat down recently with Andy to discuss the pending release. In describing the songs found on "The Lost Tapes" he told me we will find some ballads, also Motown style and Latin flavored English songs. Of course, he was overjoyed at the fact that he is able to bring them to the listening public but equally happy in letting me know half of the proceeds will go to Ste. Annes' the historic church found near the Ambassador Bridge in southwest Detroit. Though our conversation was primarily about the Latin Counts and his overall singing career, I was pleasantly surprised to find out that Andy Alonzo also had TV experience and was the first producer and program host for the mid 70's Detroit Public Television (WTVS) urban and cultural affairs show "Para Mi Pueblo", which focused on Detroit's Latino community. I was well aware of its multi-year run.

Andy Alonzo has had an illustrious singing career with a number of vocal groups over the decades. He started during his middle school days in the Vinewood and West Grand Blvd (Michigan Ave) area, while as a student at Condon Jr. High singing Doo Wop with the Grenadiers, a group he formed with friends Joe Marino and David Chavez.

In 1959 he went to a Western High School dance to listen to the popular Latin Counts, and found himself sitting in with them because one of the singers could not perform. Andy did quite well and was asked to join the Counts. He remained with them from 1959-61.

Upon leaving the Latin Counts he joined the Martinques, an African American group which was about to release their first recording, "Tonight is Just Another Night" since they needed someone to take the lead. He remained with the Martiniques for a number of years. Later on, he would join the Motown recording group Originals led by C.P. Spencer and later on the Royal Jokers.

For a number of years, he was associated with the Valadeirs. While with the latter, about 20 years back while doing a show in Baltimore with eight other Doo Wop/R&B groups, in introducing the members of the group he noted that their newest member was none other than Nick Marinelle the original lead singer of the Shades of Blue. This led to such applause that upon returning home the group's name was changed to The Shades of Blue. Andy toured extensively with the Shades of Blue.

In 1980 he would help to reunite the Latin Counts which continued for some time. It was during this latter period the soon to be released recordings were made. Alonzo's current group is named the Klassics which includes two other singers, one a fellow Latino KC De La Garza.

Latin Counts - Andy Alonzo appears on the far left singing lead

As I finished my conversation with this talented yet very humble man, I smiled and thought to myself what a treasure he is sharing with us. In this, as in previous conversations, we discussed not only his personal history but those of others he shared the stage with, some we knew in common. I realized his story is very much our community's story.

To order copies of "The Latin Counts-Lost Tapes go to klassicsdoowop.com.

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Ozzie Rivera, a retired social worker, is a cultural activist and musician who currently teaches on Afro Latino History and Culture at Wayne State University and social work at the University of Michigan.

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In addition to contributing to the School Aid Fund, the Lottery recognizes outstanding educators with the Excellence in Education awards. The Michigan Lottery established the Excellence in Education awards in 2014 to recognize outstanding public-school educators across the state during the school year.

One outstanding educator is selected each week and receives a $1,500 cash prize plus a $500 grant to their classroom, school or school district. One of the weekly award winners will be selected to receive the Lottery's Educator of the Year award and will receive a $10,000 cash prize.

Each winner also will receive a plaque and be featured in a news segment on the Lottery's media partner stations: WXYZ-TV in Detroit, FOX 17 in Grand Rapids, FOX 47 in Lansing, and WNEM-TV, Saginaw.

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All public-school employees may be nominated for the awards, which recognize educators who go "above and beyond" to make a difference in the lives of children. To nominate a public-school educator, go to https://www.michiganlottery.com/excellence-in-education.

We recognize the challenges facing educators today, and the Lottery is proud to support Michigan public schools and the important work they do. In 2023, we look forward to another successful year and support for public schools across the state.

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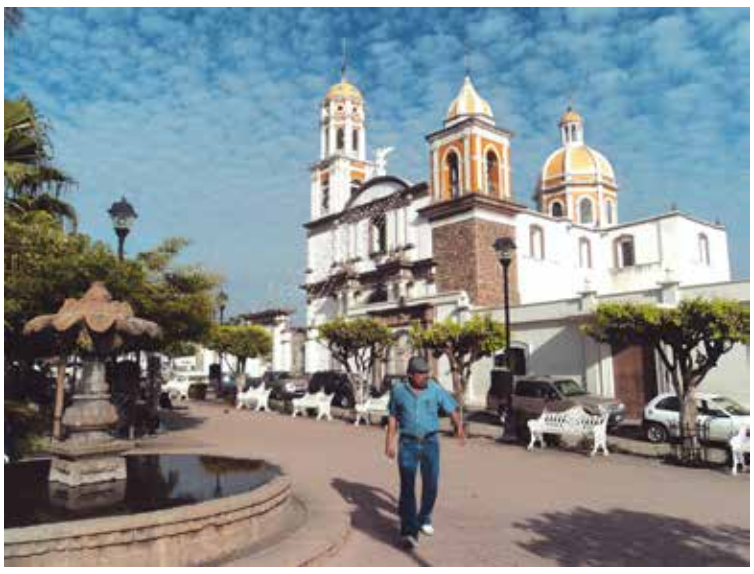
SPECIAL, WORLD'S CULTURES

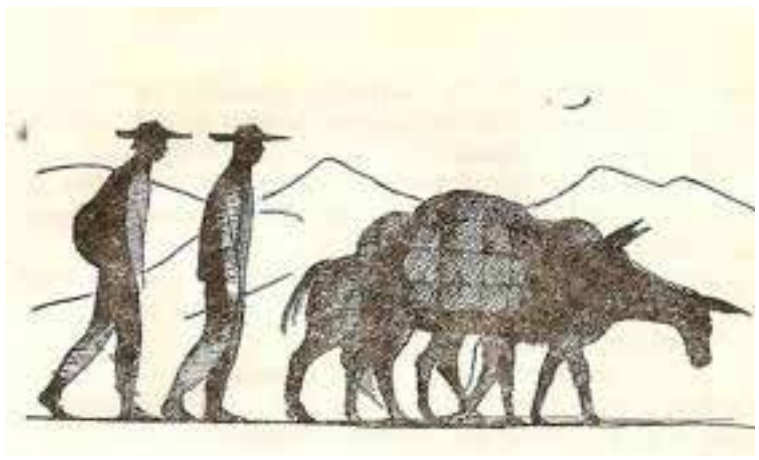
Pedro Paramo, by Juan Rulfo

I came to Comala because I heard that here was a ghost town



Pedro Páramo is one of the most important novels of the twentieth century throughout Latin America, published in Mexico in January 1955, is part of the Magic Realism Artistic Movement for its complexity and ability to intertwine the world of the living with the one of the dead. One of the features that most confronted the reception in the readers of its time was the plurality of the narrative voices, or the diversity of the narrators through the construction of characters that surpassed the human, giving life non-fantastic to the mythical place and unfortunate of Comala, that of Precious Piss, that of Pedro Páramo, the same one from which Susana San Juan fled.

The development of the life and splendor of Comala, as well as its slow and negligent decline.



The writer Juan Rulfo begins the novel with a paragraph that presents Juan Preciado, one of the many children of Pedro Páramo.

"I came Comala because they told me that my father lived here, one Pedro Páramo. My mother told me. And I promised her that she would come to see him as soon as she died. I squeezed his hands as a sign that he would do so; Well, she was about to die and I plan to promise everything".

He presents Juan Preciado as an emissary son of the mother's grudges to the father of him, a son who only knows about his father through the mother's stories: Doloritas Preciado, Pedro Páramo's first wife. Pedro Páramo ironically marries Doloritas to get back Susana San Juan, his first love. Why is it important to remember all this? Because in this first stage of the book the second temporal line opens, the first that corresponds to Juan Preciado's visit in search of Pedro Páramo, and second is that of the Ghost Town of Comala,

Purgatory people. In this first fragment in which life and death are found in the interaction of Juan Preciado with Abundio the arriero, both children of Pedro Páramo.

Being the narrative style in plans intervention, each plane to which it alludes carries its own linear narration, although in all cases it begins In Medium Res, at the center of a crucial moment. Juan Preciado arrives at Comala's house Eduviges Diada who tells him about Miguel Páramo, the son of Pedro Páramo, and when Miguel dies is when the people are condemned:

[...] —Everything began with Miguel Páramo. Only I knew what had happened to the night. I was already lying when I heard his horse back to the Media Luna. He missed me because he never returned to those hours. He used to come back early in the morning after going to visit his girlfriend to a town named Contla, a little bit away from here. He left early and took time to come back. But that night did not return...>>

In this sense, Miguel Páramo is a conductive axis of the temporality of the transgressions and impunity of the wealthy landowners of the time; It is also with the death of Miguel Páramo that Comala gets condemned, , beginning with the spiritual temporal line of the people, which falls on Father Rentería:

[...] "I know you hate him, Father [Pedro Páramo says to the Father about his son Miguel Páramo] […]; The offenses and lack of respect that sometimes he had towards you, father. But, give him the forgiveness now, father. Consider it and forgive him as maybe God has forgiven him.

From here we start to address this phenomenon in which spiritual decline, the condemnation of the people of Comala develops. Although, Father Rentería who does not want to give the sacrament of the last anointing, the post mortum blessing to Miguel Páramo. Even then, father Rentería receives the pressure of the people from Comala to gives his blessing to Miguel Páramo. From this moment on, lays on Padre Rentería a spiritual heaviness that he carries the rest of his life.

[...] Father Rentería would remember many years after the night when the hardness of his bed had him awake and then forced him to leave. It was the night Miguel Páramo died.

[...] [Father Rentería] entered the sacristy, threw himself into a corner, and there he cried with sorrow and sadness until his tears exhaust.

[...] "Did someone died in Contla, father?"
I would have wanted to answer them: «Me. I am the dead. But I just smiled.

The situation that unleashes this spiritual crisis of Father Rentería comes the temporal line of condemnation, being, ironically, Miguel Páramo the last to receive the blessing.

After Miguel Páramo, the inhabitants of Comala cannot receive any other sacrament, living in sin, they die as tormented and confused souls.

These same souls that roam and go through the times until they run into the temporal line of Juan Preciado, who dies in the middle of the novel cause of the murmurs of the dead. From this moment, one of the temporal lines is closed, that of the life of Juan Preciado, who is now part of Comala's dead.

Mariana Ayón RV

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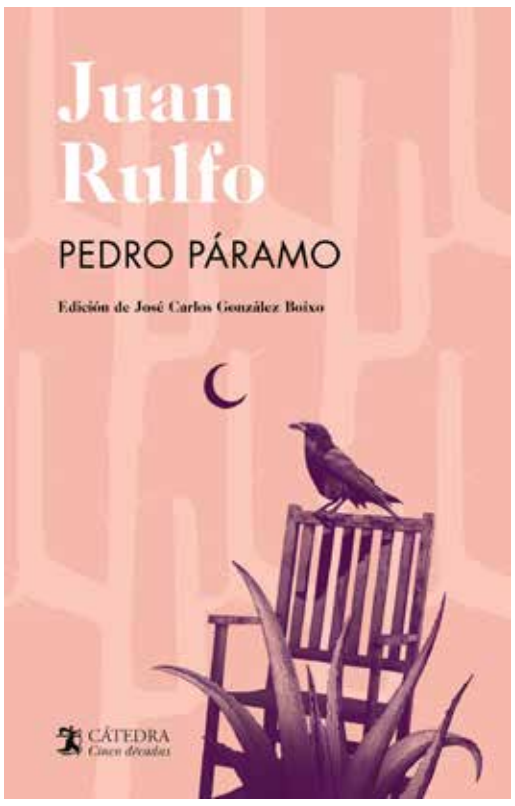
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Pedro Páramo, de Juan Rulfo

Vine a Comala porque me dijeron que aquí había un pueblo fantasma



Pedro Páramo es una de las novelas más importantes del siglo XX de todo Latinoamérica, publicada en México en enero 1955, forma parte del movimiento artístico Realismo Mágico por su complejidad y capacidad para entrelazar el mundo de los vivos con el de los muertos. Uno de los rasgos que más confrontó la recepción en los lectores de su época fue la pluralidad de las voces narrativas, o bien, la diversidad de los narradores a través de la construcción de personajes que sobrepasaron lo humano, dándole vida no fantástica al lugar mítico y desafortunado de Comala, la de Doloritas Preciado, la de Pedro Páramo, y de la que huyó Susana San Juan.

El desarrollo de la vida y esplendor de Comala, así como su lenta y negligente decadencia van de la mano del protagonista Pedro Páramo, un hombre acaudalado que vive en un pueblo rural mexicano en las colindancias de lo que ahora es la Laguna Seca de Sayula y los Volcanes de Fuego y Nevado de Colima.

El escritor Juan Rulfo comienza la novela con un párrafo que presenta a Juan Preciado, uno de los muchos hijos de Pedro Páramo.

"Vine a Comala porque me dijeron que acá vivía mi padre, un tal Pedro Páramo. Mi madre me lo dijo. Y yo le prometí que vendría a verlo en cuanto ella muriera. Le apreté sus manos en señal de que lo haría; pues ella estaba por morirse y yo en plan de prometerlo todo."

Nos presenta un hijo emisario de los rencores de la madre hacia su padre, un hijo que sólo conoce a su padre por las historias de su madre: Doloritas Preciado, primera esposa de Pedro Páramo. Pedro Páramo de manera irónica se casa con Doloritas para recuperar a Susana San Juan, su primer amor. ¿Por qué es importante recordar todo esto? Porque en esta primera etapa del libro se abre

la segunda línea temporal, la primera que corresponde a la visita de Juan Preciado a Comala en busca de Pedro Páramo, y segunda es la de la Comala pueblo fantasma, pueblo purgatorio. En este primer fragmento en que se encuentran la vida y la muerte en la interacción de Juan Preciado con Abundio el Arriero, ambos hijos de Pedro Páramo.

Siendo el estilo narrativo en intervención de planos, cada plano al que alude lleva su propia narración lineal, aunque en todos los casos comienza In Media Res, al centro de un momento crucial. Juan Preciado llega a Comala a casa de Doña Eduviges Diada quien le cuenta sobre Miguel Páramo, que es cuando éste muere cuando se condena el pueblo:

[...] —Todo comenzó con Miguel Páramo. Sólo yo supe lo que le había pasado la noche que murió. Estaba ya acostada cuando oí regresar su caballo rumbo a la Media Luna. Me extrañó porque nunca volvía a esas horas. Siempre lo hacía entrada la madrugada. Iba a platicar con su novia a un pueblo llamado Contla, algo lejos de aquí. Salía temprano y tardaba en volver. Pero esa noche no regresó… ¿Lo oyes ahora? Está claro que se oye. Viene de regreso.>>

En este sentido, Miguel Páramo es un eje conductor de la temporalidad de las trasgresiones e impunidad de los acaudalados hacendados

de la época; Asimismo, es con la muerte de Miguel Páramo que se condena a Comala, dando con ello cabida a la línea temporal espiritual del pueblo, misma que recae sobre el padre Rentería:

[...] —Yo sé que usted lo odiaba, padre [dice Pedro Páramo al Padre]. Y con razón. […]; las ofensas y falta de respeto que le tuvo en ocasiones, son motivos que cualquiera puede admitir. Pero olvídese ahora, padre. Considérelo y perdónelo como quizá Dios lo haya perdonado.

De aquí partimos para abordar este fenómeno en que se desarrolla la decadencia espiritual, la condenación del pueblo. Si bien, el padre Rentería quien no desea dar el sacramento de la última unción, la bendición Post Mortum a Miguel Páramo; y que, sin embargo, se ve presionado por el pueblo, le da la bendición. Su pesadez espiritual lo lleva con el sacerdote de otro pueblo, Contla. Es importante mencionar que la labor scardotal es la pilar de un pueblo.

[...] El padre Rentería se acordaría muchos años después de la noche en que la dureza de su cama lo tuvo despierto y después lo obligó a salir. Fue la noche en que murió Miguel Páramo.

[...] [El padre Rentería] Entró en la sacristía, se echó en un rincón, y allí lloró de pena y de tristeza hasta agotar sus lágrimas.

[...] —¿Ha muerto alguien en Contla, padre? Hubiera querido responderles: «Yo. Yo soy el muerto». Pero se conformó con sonreír.

La situación que desata esta crisis espiritual del padre Rentería se viene la línea temporal de la condenación, siendo, irónicamente, Miguel Páramo el último en recibir la bendición y absolución.

Después de Miguel Páramo, los habitantes de Comala no pueden recibir ningún otro sacramento, quedando en pecado, mueren como almas atormentadas y confundidas.

Estas mismas almas que vagan y atraviesan los tiempos hasta topar con la línea temporal de Juan Preciado, quien muere a la mitad de la novela causa de los murmullos de los muertos. A partir de este momento, se cierra una de las líneas temporales, la de la vida de Juan Preciado, quien ahora es parte de los muertos de Comala.

Mariana Ayón RV

Espera nuestro Especial Semanal

CULTURAS LATINOAMERICANAS,

by Mariana Ayón RV

Comcast RISE to Award 100 Small Businesses in Metro Detroit with Grants

Awards Include a $5,000 Monetary Grant, Marketing and Technology Resources, and More

Comcast has announced a new round of 100 businesses in Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties will receive comprehensive grant packages that include business consultation services, educational resources, a $5,000 monetary grant, creative production, media schedule, and a technology makeover. Comcast RISE is committed to supporting the growth of all small businesses, while advancing the objectives of diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as community investment. The program was created to help businesses and their communities thrive with a focus on economic growth.

Beginning on June 1, and through June 30, eligible businesses in metro Detroit, as well as Baltimore, Memphis, Philadelphia, and Portland, can apply for a grant package at www.ComcastRISE.com. A total of 100 grants per city, or 500 grants overall, will be announced in August and awarded in September 2023, bringing the total number of recipients to date to 13,500.

"For the third consecutive year, Comcast is investing in local small businesses with our Comcast RISE program," said Kristee Cominiello, senior vice president for Comcast in Michigan. "Since 2021, Comcast has assisted more than 650 small businesses owned by people of color and women in Michigan. We will continue our efforts to positively impact the communities in which we operate and help an even broader range of small businesses, while continuing to focus on diversity, inclusion and community investment."

Comcast RISE stands for Representation, Investment, Strength, and Empowerment.

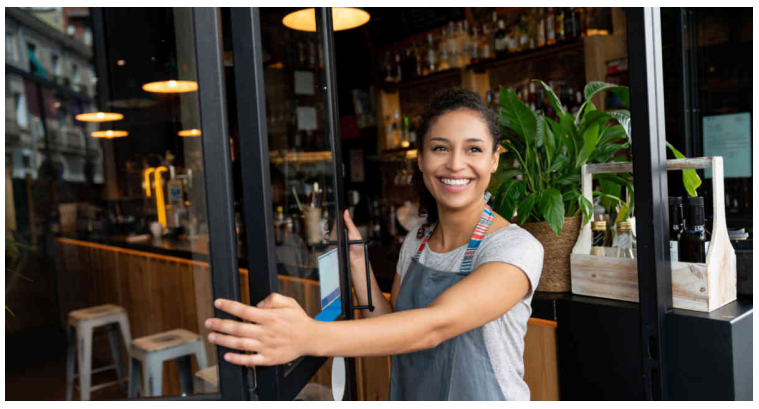
Comcast RISE was created in November 2020 to help small businesses hardest hit by COVID-19, from bakeries and barber shops to childcare centers and cleaning services, by providing the grants needed to survive and recover.

The program will evolve from helping businesses survive the pandemic, to helping businesses and their communities thrive with a focus on economic growth.

Grant packages will include:
CONSULTATION: Assessment of business and tactical planning; business to business coaching; and mentorship to advise on how to grow the business.
EDUCATION RESOURCES: Educational content and resources tailored to individual companies based on where they are in their business lifecycle.
MONETARY GRANT: $5,000 monetary grant to invest in growth and sustainability.
CREATIVE PRODUCTION & MEDIA: Turnkey production of a 30-second TV commercial, plus a media strategy consultation and 180-day media placement schedule.
TECHNOLOGY MAKEOVER: Computer equipment and Internet, Voice and Cybersecurity services for 12 months. (Taxes and other fees may still apply for tech makeover services.)

In addition, any small business owner can visit the Comcast RISE destination on the X1 platform featuring aggregated small business news, tips, insights, and more. Just say "Comcast RISE" into the X1 voice remote.

Comcast RISE is part of Project UP, the company's comprehensive initiative to advance digital equity and help build a future of unlimited possibilities. More information on eligibility requirements and how to apply for the grant program is available at www.ComcastRISE.com.



Matrix Theatre's Solo Performance Festival Returns for 2023 Encore!

Preparations are underway for the Second Annual Solo Performance Festival which takes place at Matrix Theatre Saturday, June 24 from 1-9pm.

There is no shortage of talent. Over 20 performers will delight their audience with colorful character portrayals, poignant poetry, and true-life stories that will make you laugh and even cry. Theatergoers are invited to spend the day at Matrix hopping between their indoor and outdoor stages of short collections and full-length performances.

Some highlights include Sofa Stories, back for a second year, and Matrix's own immersive theatre experience for audience members to step into.

"We're so excited to be back for a second year!" says Director of Productions, Marisa Dluge. "The festival will have all the variety and uniqueness as year one, but with new performers, styles and staging. There will be something for absolutely everyone; a true celebration of the diversity and power of solo performance!"

All presentations and activities take place in and around Matrix Theatre Company located at 2730 Bagley Street, in the heart of Mexicantown. Festival Pass is $15. For Solo Fest Details go to www.matrixtheatre.org, or call 313 967 0999.

About Matrix Theatre Company

In its 31st season as a non-profit, community-based theatre, Matrix Theatre Company is located in southwest Detroit and uses the transformative power of theatre to change lives, build community, and foster social justice. Go to matrixtheatre.org for further information. Matrix Theatre Company's Mainstage Season is funded in part by Michigan Arts and Culture Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, The Kresge Foundation, Hudson-Webber Foundation, and The Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Foundation.

Diles que lo Viste en *EL CENTRAL*
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EL CENTRAL
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EL CENTRAL informs and celebrates Metro Detroit's Hispanic and Latino community and Southwest Detroit in particular and supports the professional development of local reporters and photographers who seek to enter the journalism profession.

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"Elton Monroy," A Mexican Immigrant Artist, Receives The Infinity Art Recognition

By Georgina García-Pfeuffer

Elton Monroy, a highly regarded visual artist and muralist, has been a resident of Southwest Detroit since 2015. His passion for celebrating and promoting Mexican and Latino culture through vivid and vibrant murals has garnered attention throughout the city and its surrounding areas. What makes Monroy's murals so distinctive is their ability to capture traditional Mexican elements and icons while also incorporating members of the Southwest Detroit community.

His artwork not only showcases the beauty and richness of Mexican culture but also highlights the significant contributions of Latinas and Latinos to society. It is no surprise that Monroy was recently honored with the prestigious "Infinity Art Award" by the CasArt Foundation Gala, presented by founder of the CasArt Foundation, Luly Del Real.

Monroy humbly expressed his gratitude for the recognition, emphasizing the importance of respecting and admiring cultural heritage, traditions, and values. The CasArt Foundation also acknowledged the exceptional work of Mexican visual artist Fatima Melendez Mcgrew, whose intricate and colorful artwork impressed the judges.

Luly Del Real, the founder of CasArt, explained that receiving an art award is a crucial stepping stone for artists, as it acknowledges their talent and dedication and serves as a source of inspiration for local artists.

The fifth edition of the CasArt Gala, "Ecos de la Guelaguetza," featured a plethora of traditional folkloric dances, human alebrijes, Chinas Oaxaca, and other traditional dances from the state of Oaxaca, including the Flor de la Piña dance. Monroy shared that being recognized for his work is an incredible honor, as it acknowledges the significance of the contributions made by the Latino community in Detroit. His dedication to promoting Mexican and Latino culture through his murals has not only beautified the city but has also brought attention to the rich cultural heritage of the community.

Elton Monroy, with the Infinity Art Award

"Elton Monroy", Artista Inmigrante Mexicano, Recibe El Reconocimiento Infinity Art

Por Georgina García-Pfeuffer

Elton Monroy, afamado arista visual y muralista, residente del suroeste de Detroit, desde el 2015 se ha dedicado a celebrar y realzar la cultura mexicana y latina en sus murales, los que visten de alegría algunas calles de la ciudad de Detroit y sus alrededores.

Sus creaciones artísticas, en específico sus murales se caracterizan por plasmar tanto elementos e iconos mexicanos como incluir residentes y miembros de la comunidad del suroeste de Detroit, promoviendo así tanto la presencia de latinas y latinos como sus contribuciones a la sociedad.

Por tal motivo, Elton Monroy se hizo merecedor al "Galardon Infity Art", otorgado por la Luly Del Real, fundadora de CasArt en la quinta edición de la Gala de la fundación CasArt.

"Para mi, el hecho de que las organizaciones reconozcan mi trabajo, en especial, una organización latina, quiere decir que tengo la aprobación de lo que estoy proponiendo, lo que yo siempre quiero es que nos perciban bien, que nos respeten, que entiendan que nuestro legado cultural, tradiciones y valores son importantes y dignos de admiración", expresó Elton Monroy.

La fundación CasArt entregó también un reconocimiento a la artista visual mexicana Fatima Melendez Mcgrew, que con su colorido y detallado trabajo pone en alto el nombre de México.

"Un premio de arte es una herramienta para el artista en su trayectoria, es un reconocimiento a su talento y dedicación también como una fuente de inspiración o motivación para los artistas locales," declaró Luly Del Real, fundadora de CasArt.

El tema de la quinta edición de la Gala de CasArt,"Ecos de la Guelaguetza",

ofreció un estupendo viaje a a el estado de Oaxaca, a través del despliegue de bailes folclóricos, impresionantes alebrijes humanos, Chinas Oaxaqueñas, y bailables tradicionales que forman parte de la tradicional Guelaguetza, como la danza Flor de la Piña.

"Es un gran honor ser reconocido por mi trabajo, es un sentimiento especial porque no es un reconocimiento porque pinto bien, si no por valorar la importancia que tiene mi trabajo en reconocer el hecho de que estamos aquí y

de que contribuimos a esta sociedad, a la comunidad en la ciudad de Detroit", manifestó el artista visual y muralista Elton Monroy.

From left, Elton Monroy with Luly Del Real and Fatima Melendez McGrew who was also honored

Michigan Saves is making it even easier to finance energy upgrades so more Detroit homeowners can invest in clean energy projects like efficient furnaces, air conditioners, insulation, and more. Our Detroit Loan Fund is a special offer just for Detroit residents. If your credit score disqualifies you from our traditional loan program or income-qualified programs through your utility provider, you can apply through TRUE Community Credit Union and Michigan Saves will use alternative underwriting criteria to determine your ability to pay.

Visit **MichiganSaves.org** to get started.

Southwest Greenway Opens

By Juanita Zuniga

"The early success of this campaign thanks to our funding partners, together with the City of Detroit's commitment of ongoing support, is historic for our community and is nationally significant in the development of urban public spaces."

Mayor Mike Duggan spoke about the transformation of the relationship that Southwest Detroiter's have had over the years with the riverfront. "For more than 100 years, the people of Southwest Detroit experienced the riverfront negatively," he said. "Talk to somebody from Southwest Detroit, and (they say) it is noise. It is odors. It is traffic."

The mayor spoke about the jewel that nearby Riverside Park has become and another jewel on the way in Roosevelt Park in front of Ford's Michigan Central historic renovation project, all of which will be "eclipsed" by the Ralph C Wilson Centennial Park on the riverfront at Rosa Parks Blvd. "Today, the Southwest Greenway is going to connect Roosevelt Park and the train station to Centennial Park," Duggan said. He concluded that projects like the Southwest Greenway and connected parks systems are transforming our neighborhoods "from blight to beauty."

Ford Motor Company contributed $5 million to the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy for the $8 million Southwest Greenway. The balance of the funding for construction of the greenway was provided by the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Department of Transportation and the Walters Family Foundation.

"We are proud to partner with the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy and Mayor Duggan to create a public space for the community to enjoy," said Mary Culler, Chair of Michigan Central and President of Ford Motor Company Fund. "The Southwest Greenway will connect Detroit to all that we are building at Michigan Central and will help strengthen community bonds by joining the west side, east side, and northern neighborhoods of our city."

Current Conservancy Board member, longtime resident of Southwest Detroit and author of "Detroit's Mexicantown", Maria Elena Rodriguez was excited about what the Greenway represents. "The new Southwest Greenway is an example of the vision that defines the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. Who would've thought that an abandoned stretch of land from Bagley to Jefferson Avenue would be turned into an oasis? It's a peaceful stretch of elements from big rocks, a graffiti museum and thoughtful design. I encourage everyone to bike ride, skate, or walk on the smooth pavement. This was built with you and your family in mind. Enjoy it!"

A Unified Campaign

The celebration also included an announcement of more than $70 million in new funding for the Unified Greenway Campaign, a collaborative effort to raise $350 million which will be used to complete the world-class Detroit Riverfront, fund construction of the Joe Louis Greenway, and create an endowment that will support the maintenance and operation of both projects for future generations. In April, Mayor Duggan's administration and City Council collaborated to authorize the City of Detroit's commitment to providing up to $6 million per year to support the operations and maintenance of the Detroit Riverfront and Joe Louis Greenway.

The Unified Greenway Campaign is an unprecedented partnership which includes the City of Detroit, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, and the Joe Louis Greenway Partnership (JLGP). Launched in early 2022, the campaign is a unique collaboration of corporate, philanthropic, and governmental funders. The campaign has raised $229 million in less than two years, making it one of the most successful campaigns in the country.

Unified Greenway Campaign announces more than $70 million in new funding

The $70 million funding announcement serves as a catalyst for the campaign and will have a profound impact for Detroiters. With lead gifts from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation ($35 Million), William Davidson Foundation ($20 Million), Gilbert Family Foundation ($15 Million), W.K. Kellogg Foundation ($5 Million), the Unified Greenway Founding Partners have committed more than $70 million to ensure this transformational project is maintained for generations.

"This is a historic moment as we join together to celebrate what has been built on our Riverfront over the last 20 years, an incredible vision to connect neighborhoods across our City, and a collaboration forged across public and private partners that will ensure this Unified Greenway will provide enjoyment today and for generations to come," said David Egner, President & CEO, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation.

"In our effort to better connect this region and its people to one another through the Foundation's Parks & Trails initiative, the Detroit Riverfront and the Joe Louis Greenway are at the center of it all uniting the city of Detroit and its neighboring communities. We are proud to have been a supporter from the initial framework and community engagement to the capital support and sustainability."

"The William Davidson Foundation is proud to be among the many partners involved in this transformational effort to further enhance the community we call home," said Darin McKeever, President & CEO, William Davidson Foundation. "This Detroit community raised the bar for welcoming, world-class public spaces when it set the ambitious vision for the Detroit Riverfront 20-plus years ago. We believe the Joe Louis Greenway and the Unified Greenway Campaign will raise that bar even higher - demonstrating once again how great public spaces improve quality of life for neighborhood residents and drive broader economic development for our city and region."

With this public announcement, the campaign has raised a total of $229 million toward the $350 million goal, with generous support from government, philanthropic, and business leaders. This total includes approximately $150 million in public funds from the State of Michigan, Wayne County, and the City of Detroit.

Previously announced commitments to the Conservancy from the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation, Ford Motor Company and Huron-Clinton Metroparks support the goals of the Unified Greenway Campaign.

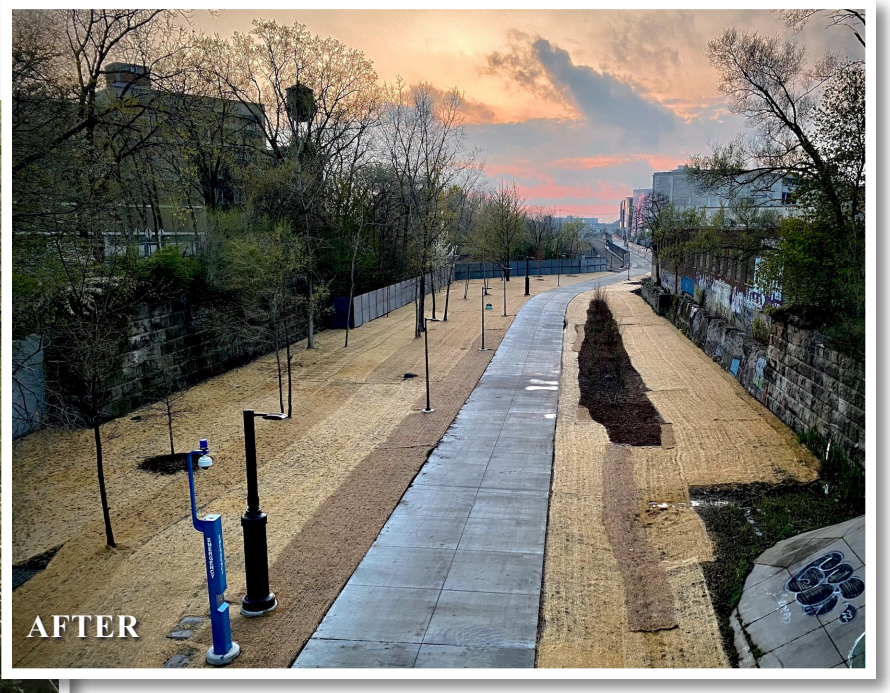
The transformational project consists of a connected system of public greenspaces that will link Detroit's revitalized riverfront to 23 Detroit neighborhoods and the cities of Highland Park, Hamtramck, and Dearborn, and internationally to Canada.

In addition to the Gilbert Family Foundation gift of $10 million to the campaign, the foundation has committed an additional $5 million to establish an accompanying economic development strategy.

"Strong communities begin with stable housing, but come to life in vibrant, connected public spaces," said Laura Grannemann, Executive Director of the Gilbert Family Foundation. "This unprecedented partnership and investment into the Joe Louis Greenway will create more connectivity for Detroiters – connectivity to public space, jobs and each other."

The results of the campaign will deliver quality-of-life benefits, turn blight into beauty, catalyze new and equitable economic development opportunities, and improve access and transit options citywide.

Each year, 3.5 million people visit the Detroit Riverfront. The Detroit Riverwalk has been named the Best in the U.S. three years in a row (2021, 2022 and 2023) by USA TODAY.



The Southwest Greenway. Photos courtesy of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy

"Southwest Greenway" Abre

By Juanita Zuniga

"La gran inauguración de Southwest Greenway es la ocasión perfecta para celebrar el exitoso progreso de la Campaña Unified Greenway, que completará y conservará la ribera del río Detroit (Riverfront) y Joe Louis Greenway por generaciones… El éxito inicial de esta campaña ha sido gracias a nuestros socios financieros, junto con el compromiso y apoyo continuo de la ciudad de Detroit; es histórico para nuestra comunidad y es importante a nivel nacional en el desarrollo de espacios públicos urbanos" comentó Matt Cullen, presidente de Detroit Riverfront Conservancy y arquitecto de la Campaña Unified Greenway.

El alcalde Mike Duggan habló sobre la transformación en la relación que los habitantes del suroeste de Detroit han tenido a lo largo de los años con la ribera del río. "Durante más de 100 años, la gente del suroeste de Detroit ha visto de forma negativa esta proximidad…Al hablar con cualquier habitante éste diría que genera ruido, olores y tráfico".

El alcalde enfatizó sobre la joya en la que se ha convertido el parque Riverside y del otro fantástico proyecto en proceso en el parque Roosevelt, frente a la histórica renovación de la Estación Central de Michigan por Ford, todo lo que será impactado por el parque Centenario Ralph C Wilson a la ribera del río en el Bulevar Rosa Parks. "Hoy, Southwest Greenway conectará el parque Roosevelt y la estación de trenes con el parque Centenario", mencionó Duggan y concluyó en que los proyectos como el Southwest Greenway y los sistemas de parques conectados están transformando los vecindarios, llevándolos "de las ruinas a la belleza".

Ford Motor Company contribuyó con 5 millones de dólares con el Detroit Riverfront Conservancy para el Southwest Greenway del total de 8 millones de dólares. El saldo de los fondos para la construcción de ésta vía verde fue proporcionado por la Fundación Ralph C. Wilson, Jr., el Fondo Fiduciario de Recursos Naturales de Michigan, el Departamento de Recursos Naturales de Michigan, el Departamento de Transporte de Michigan y la Fundación de la Familia Walters.

"Estamos orgullosos de asociarnos con Detroit Riverfront Conservancy y el alcalde Duggan para crear un espacio público para el disfrute de la comunidad", dijo Mary Culler, presidenta de Michigan Central y de la Fundación Ford Motor Company. "El Southwest Greenway conectará a Detroit con todo lo que estamos construyendo en Michigan Central y ayudará a fortalecer los lazos comunitarios al unir los vecindarios de nuestra ciudad".

María Elena Rodríguez, miembro actual de la Junta de Conservación, residente del suroeste de Detroit y autora del libro "Detroit's Mexicantown", está entusiasmada con todo lo que representa Greenway. "El nuevo Southwest Greenway es un ejemplo de la visión que define a Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. ¿Quién hubiera pensado que un tramo de tierra abandonado desde Bagley hasta la Avenida Jefferson se convertiría en un oasis? Es un tramo tranquilo de elementos con grandes rocas, un museo de grafiti y un diseño bien pensado. Animo a todos a andar en bicicleta, patinar o caminar sobre el sendero. Esto ha sido construido pensando en usted y su familia. ¡Disfrútelo!"

Una campaña unificada

La celebración también incluyó un anuncio de más de 70 millones de dólares en fondos para la Campaña Unified Greenway, un esfuerzo de colaboración para recaudar 350 millones de dólares, que se utilizarán para llevar al Detroit Riverfront a un nivel de clase mundial, financiar la construcción de Joe Louis Greenway y crear una dotación que apoyará el mantenimiento y operación de ambos proyectos para las generaciones futuras. En abril, la administración del alcalde Duggan y el Concejo Municipal colaboraron para autorizar el compromiso de la Ciudad de Detroit, de proporcionar hasta 6 millones de dólares al año.

La Campaña Unified Greenway es una asociación sin precedentes que incluye a la Ciudad de Detroit, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy y Joe Louis Greenway Partnership (JLGP). Lanzada a principios de 2022, la campaña es una colaboración de corporaciones, organizaciones filantrópicas y gubernamentales, que ha recaudado 229 millones de dólares en menos de dos años, lo que la convierte en una de las campañas más exitosas del país.

La Campaña Unified Greenway anuncia más de $70 millones en nuevos fondos

El anuncio del financiamiento de $70 millones, es un catalizador y tendrá un gran impacto en los habitantes de Detroit. Con donaciones de la Fundación Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. ($35 millones), la Fundación William Davidson ($20 millones), Fundación de la Familia Gilbert ($15 millones), W.K. Fundación Kellogg ($5 millones) y los socios fundadores de Unified Greenway han comprometido más de $70 millones para garantizar que este proyecto de transformación se mantenga durante generaciones.

"Este es un momento histórico en el que nos unimos para celebrar lo que se ha construido en nuestra ribera durante los últimos 20 años, una visión increíble para conectar los vecindarios de nuestra ciudad y una colaboración forjada entre socios públicos y privados que garantizará esta vía ecológica, proporcionará el disfrute de hoy y de las generaciones venideras", dijo David Egner, presidente y director ejecutivo de la Fundación Ralph C. Wilson, Jr.

"En nuestro esfuerzo por conectar esta región y su gente a través de la iniciativa Parks & Trails de la Fundación, Detroit Riverfront y Joe Louis Greenway hemos estado en el centro de todo, uniendo a la ciudad de Detroit y sus comunidades. Estamos orgullosos de haber sido partícipes desde el inicio, con el compromiso de la comunidad hasta el apoyo de capital y sostenibilidad".

"La Fundación William Davidson se enorgullece de estar entre los socios involucrados en este esfuerzo de transformación para mejorar aún más la comunidad a la que llamamos hogar", dijo Darin McKeever, presidente y director ejecutivo de la Fundación William Davidson. "Esta comunidad elevó el nivel de los espacios públicos de clase mundial, cuando estableció la ambiciosa visión de Detroit Riverfront hace más de 20 años. Creemos que Joe Louis Greenway y la Campaña Unified Greenway, enaltecerán este sitio aún más, demostrando cómo los grandes espacios públicos mejoran la calidad de vida de los residentes de las colonias e impulsan un desarrollo económico más amplio para la ciudad y la región".

Con este anuncio público, la campaña ha recaudado un total de 229 millones de dólares (con una meta de 350 millones), gracias al generoso apoyo de líderes gubernamentales, filantrópicos y empresariales. Esto incluye aproximadamente $150 millones de fondos públicos del estado, el condado de Wayne y la ciudad de Detroit.

Los compromisos previamente anunciados con TNC por parte de Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation, Ford Motor Company y Huron-Clinton Metroparks respaldan los objetivos de la Campaña Unified Greenway.

El proyecto de transformación consiste en un sistema conectado de espacios verdes públicos que conectará la ribera revitalizada del río Detroit con 23 colonias de Detroit y las ciudades de Highland Park, Hamtramck y Dearborn, e internacionalmente con Canadá.

Además de la donación de la Fundación de la Familia Gilbert Family de $10 millones, ésta se ha comprometido a donar $5 millones adicionales para establecer una estrategia de desarrollo económico complementaria.

"Las comunidades sólidas comienzan con viviendas estables, pero cobran vida en espacios públicos vibrantes y conectados… Esta asociación e inversión sin precedentes en Joe Louis Greenway creará más conectividad para los habitantes: en cuanto a espacios públicos, trabajos y socialización", mencionó Laura Grannemann, directora ejecutiva de la Fundación de la Familia Gilbert. "

Los resultados de la campaña mejorarán la calidad de vida de las comunidades, embellecerán el espacio, generarán oportunidades de desarrollo económico y optimarán el acceso y tránsito de la ciudad.

Cada año 3,5 millones de personas visitan la ribera del río Detroit y el Detroit Riverwalk ha sido nombrado el mejor en los EE. UU. tres años seguidos (2021, 2022 y 2023) por USA TODAY.

Detroit Council President Mary Sheffield enjoys a moment on the Greenway

Nikki Neuzil owner of Flamingo Vintage in Southwest Detroit and Finn Formica take the bike path for a spin

Southwest Detroit resident and member of the Joe Louis Greenway Advisory Council Ru Shann Long with Detroit Councilmember Gabriela Santiago Romero

PHOTOS BY KOPALLI MEDIA/ALEJANDRO UGALDE

Tigers 2 Games Behind !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

The Detroit Tigers (25-27, as of early Tuesday afternoon, currently find themselves 2 games behind first place Minnesota Twins (28-26).

The Tigers beat the Chicago White Sox 2 out of 3 games, and got to one game behind the Twins, before losing to the Texas Rangers on Monday, and falling to 2 games behind first place.

The Detroit Tigers have a chance at catching up to the Minnesota Twins and possibly taking over first place, if they keep up winning.

The Tigers take on the Texas Rangers through Wednesday, May 31st, and go on the road Friday, June 2nd through Sunday, June 4th to take on the Chicago White Sox, then travel to take on the Philadelphia Phillies Monday, June 5th through Wednesday, June 7th, before coming back home on Friday, June 9th to take on the Arizona Diamondbacks

Photos by: Michael Alberts/ EL CENTRAL

Photos below are highlights from previous Detroit Tigers games against the Texas Rangers on Memorial Day

AJ Hinch gives starting lineup to son of fallen hero on Memorial Day

Umpire receives Memorial Day lineup from fallen heros son

Kids Club Members stand with players for National Anthem vs. Whitesox

Memorial Day Tribute to Fallen Heros 2023

Michael Lorenzen receives gameball From Tigerday Kid

Matthew Boyd and Eric Haase talk during game

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

BACK-TO-BACK WINS FOR CITY

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

After plummeting to the bottom of the USL Championship, Detroit City FC had just about kissed 2023 good-bye. However, with consecutive wins over defending champion San Antonio and US Open Cup quarterfinalist Birmingham Legion, a new sense of optimism has taken hold at Keyworth. Perhaps Le Rouge caught both teams at the right time. San Antonio could have been guilty of over-confidence when arriving in Hamtramck on the back of a 7-0 pounding of Charleston. Birmingham arrived after a grueling round of 16 Open Cup win with the knowledge that they will be hosting a quarterfinal against a beatable Charlotte FC from MLS. Heady days for the Alabama team could well have caused them to overlook DCFC.

The stats from Saturday's game don't flatter DCFC. Birmingham had 2/3 possession, but managed only 4 shots on target. One of those efforts forced Stephen Carroll into a brilliant goal line clearance with Nate Steinwascher out of the play. Steinwascher did come to the rescue in the second half with one excellent save on a shot from close range, but that was about it for serious danger. Much of the Legion's possession took place well away from the City goal, producing little in the way of goalmouth action. For the minimal amount of the ball DCFC possessed, they produced the same number of shots and had more of them from inside the penalty area.

Man of the Match Maxi Rodriguez had the two best shots of the game. The first produced the game's only goal. In the first half, he took a free kick from the right wing that was headed straight back by a defender in the penalty area. Upon regaining possession, he poked the ball by his man and cut in from a narrow angle. He struck his shot with the outside of his right foot, bending it up and over the goalkeeper's shoulder and in off the far post. It was a terrific individual effort that brought a huge roar from the 6,164 in Keyworth. His second shot came during a second half flurry when he latched onto a square ball across the top of the penalty area and ripped a rising drive off the crossbar. He hit it with such force that the ball rebounded farther out than the spot from where the shot originated. It would have been another magnificent goal if the trajectory was just a couple of inches lower.

While the win and the performance will certainly please Trevor James, City suffered another casualty when midfielder Abdoulaye Diop pulled up with a groin problem near the end of the first half. He struggled for the last couple minutes and didn't return after the break. James took a calculated risk and shuffled the midfield to include 19 year old Dominic Gasso for the second half. Gasso played a handful of minutes last year and this year, but Saturday's appearance was by far his longest stretch of play. The academy product came up with a mature display in front of the back three, holding his own in a number of physical challenges and moving the ball smoothly. James and the club as a whole can be proud of this young player stepping into a senior role. With Diop's length of absence undetermined, they might have to keep Gasso in the team for the next few weeks. It's up to the player to make it so the manager doesn't take him out for a more experienced option.

Seeing out the win lifted City up to tenth in the Eastern Conference, just one point behind FC Tulsa in the last playoff spot. The season has now passed the one-third mark and DCFC has its first winning streak. The team now has a break before starting a stretch where four out of five games will be on the road. The first game next Wednesday will be in Charleston against the Eastern Conference leaders, featuring former City star Deklan Wynne.

Shortly after the men's game finished, the DCFC women took the field against Kalamazoo. Their short season is nearly halfway over. Having started with three draws, David Dwaihy's team picked up a much needed win in Cleveland during the week. Unfortunately, they didn't start well against Kalamazoo, conceding a stunning long range goal before the match had reached the two minute mark. From there, they struggled to put any pressure on the Kalamazoo goal, going down to their first defeat of the summer. However, with five games in the next three weeks, there is every opportunity of a recovery. Much like the men's team, they have to figure out how to score more goals. They don't concede many. That will keep them in games, but won't win enough of them to make a run for a playoff spot with Flint City and Kalamazoo finding ways to win.

Claressa Shields Opponent Changed For Saturdays Fight

Boxing superstar and two-division undisputed world champion Claressa Shields has raised the stakes substantially and will now face no. 1 ranked middleweight contender Maricela “La Diva” Cornejo in the main event of action on Saturday, June 3 from Little Caesars Arena in Detroit and streamed live on DAZN in the U.S. and Canada. Hanna Gabriels was originally slated to rematch Shields. However, based on the results of a May 2, 2023 VADA test done as part of the WBC Clean Boxer Program, promoter Salita Promotions made the change.

Tickets for the live event are on sale now and can be purchased through 313Presents.com, Ticketmaster.com and the XFINITY Box Office at Little Caesars Arena. The event is promoted by Salita Promotions and 313 Presents.

EDITORIAL OPINION

"MEXICO'S WANNABE DICTATOR"

By Raoul Lowery Contreras

The government of Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador (AMLO) will end next year per the Mexican Constitution's one six year term. Nonetheless, the lame duck President is energetically violating the Constitution and laws and legal restrictions constitutionally imposed on him as President.

In other words he is usurping Mexico's Presidency.

In doing so he is endangering Mexico, our next door neighbor and sometime number one trading party. He's doing so illegally. He is a reactionary fervently working to return Mexico to the 70-year-old one party dictatorship he apprenticed in as a young "achichincle" (ah-chee-cheen-cleh, political gofer, errand boy).

Who for? For the butchers of the PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party) that used an otherwise useless Mexican army to massacre hundreds of college students who demanded freedom in 1968. A young Lopez Obrador ran errands for the butchers and learned authoritarianism from them.

Specifics:

He instituted "consultations" with Mexico's poor to flood plebiscites with votes to "cancel" a multi-billion dollar (yes American dollars) Mexico City airport project that would have finished an airport that would have been a world class airport. Claiming "corruption," Lopez Obrador canceled the half-completed airport that cost billions of dollars in cancellation fees.

In Baja California, his plebiscite, ordered before he even took office, canceled a multi-billion dollar brewery 75% completed and its 1000 well-paid jobs because of an alleged water storage. A tiny number of people voted. Coincidently, four years later the American brewery company announced it would replace the partially completed brewery in Baja California with a new one in Lopez Obrador's home state of Tabasco.

To replace the canceled mega-airport in the Mexico City area, Lopez Obrador ordered the Mexican Army to build a new airport 30-miles from Mexico City proper. Although Lopez Obrador went to the Army's partially-constructed airport and announced it was finished a year ago, it wasn't and still is not finished, no one is using it unless forced to by AMLO's government.

To guarantee more usage of the new airport that established airlines refuse to use, Lopez Obrador has paid millions of pesos to buy the name of a bankrupt out-of-business airline and use that name for the Mexican Army to open a new airline using the old name in order to use the new airport.

When Lopez Obrador was sworn in as President in 2018, he disbanded the National Police and replaced it with a "National Guard," a uniformed paramilitary to back up local and state police. By the Constitution, the leadership was required to be civilian, not military. This year, Lopez Obrador decreed that the National Guard was to be integrated with the Army. Mexico's Supreme Court of Mexico ruled that unconstitutional. Lopez Obrador declared war on what he called a "neoliberal" bandit court that has no power over his presidency.

The President then decreed that the Mexican Election Institute that ruled against AMLO in the Presidential elections of 2006 and 2012 but declared him the winner in 2018 should be "reformed" and packed with his party's "party hacks." He needed a supermajority in Congress to make this happen but he lost that in the off-year elections. He then put forward a "Plan B" where he tried parliamentary tricks to diminish the institute. The Supreme Court ruled his "Plan B" invalid because his tricks did not follow legal procedure, or as we say, "due process."

Now, Lopez Obrador has announced that the "neoliberal" outlaw Supreme Court that has devastated Lopez Obrador's schemes to reimpose rule by Presidential decree must be destroyed as it coexists - that is, individual nomination by the President and confirmation by the Mexican Senate.and replaced by his model of nominations by political party and national votes by voters.

His Supreme Court proposal calls for a majority congressional vote which his party can produce for a "consultation" call in August, then would require a majority vote by the nation with a minimum turnout required to make the change, a procedure AMLO failed to meet in his last "consultation."

One little problem that Lopez Obrador might not overcome without his Army and National Guard slaughtering Mexico's large middle-class is that there would be no constitutional change to wreck the Court without the Court itself ruling that the "consultation" is legal before it happens.

Talk about a "Catch 22!"

Laugh out loud! AMLO. Laugh out Loud!

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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Salud/*Health*

Stroke Rising in Young Populations: Here's What You Need to Know

(StatePoint) Often times stroke is associated with older populations, but many people are unaware that it can occur at any age. In fact, one out of five people who have a stroke are under age 55.

A stroke is a brain attack that occurs when blood vessels in the brain are blocked or burst. Strokes can cause long-term disability, impair a person's ability to speak, see or move, and can even result in death. While you can lose everything to stroke, taking quick action at the first sign can help with recovery and have a lasting impact. Unfortunately, almost 30% of adults younger than 45 don't know the five most common symptoms of a stroke, according to research published in The American Heart Association's "Stroke." At the same time, stroke is on the rise in that age group.

"Young people who are not familiar with the most common signs of stroke are at risk of inaction at a time when every second matters," says Sheryl Martin-Schild, MD, PhD, stroke medical director at Touro Infirmary. "Both stroke survival and recovery are possible with the right care at the right time."

Immediate medical attention is dependent on everyone learning and being able to recognize the sudden onset of the BE FAST signs and symptoms of a stroke in themselves and others and calling 911 immediately. BE FAST stands for Balance, Eyes, Face, Arm, Speech, Time and refers to these signs of stroke:

- **Balance**: Sudden loss of balance
- **Eyes**: Loss of vision in one or both eyes
- **Face**: Face looks uneven or droopy
- **Arm**: Arm or leg is weak or hanging down
- **Speech:** Slurred speech, trouble speaking or seems confused
- **Time:** Immediately call 911

No matter a person's age, understanding stroke risk factors is also vital, as some factors can be managed with lifestyle changes. These risk factors include high blood pressure, atrial fibrillation, high cholesterol, smoking, diabetes, poor circulation, lack of physical activity and obesity. It's important for everyone to talk to their health care provider about safely managing these factors through diet, exercise and smoking cessation, particularly for those at higher risk due to age (risk increases as you get older), race (African-Americans, Hispanics, and Asian/Pacific Islanders have a higher risk of stroke than people of other races), sex (more women have strokes than men) and family history (risk is greater if a family member has had a stroke).

"According to the CDC, stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability. Therefore, it's critical to learn the signs and take action right away," says Dr. Martin-Schild. "It is far better to react than to regret."

For more information and resources, visit strokeawareness.com, developed by Genentech Inc., a member of the Roche Group.

"BE FAST" was developed by Intermountain Healthcare, as an adaptation of the FAST model implemented by the American Stroke Association. Reproduced with permission from Intermountain Healthcare. © 2011 Intermountain Healthcare. All rights reserved.

Accidente cerebrovascular en aumento en poblaciones jóvenes: Esto es lo que necesita saber

(StatePoint) A menudo, el accidente cerebrovascular se asocia con poblaciones de mayor edad, pero muchas personas no saben que puede ocurrir a cualquier edad. De hecho, una de cada cinco personas que sufre un accidente cerebrovascular tiene menos de 55 años.

Un accidente cerebrovascular es un ataque cerebral que ocurre cuando los vasos sanguíneos del cerebro se bloquean o revientan. Los accidentes cerebrovasculares pueden causar una discapacidad a largo plazo, afectar la capacidad de una persona para hablar, ver o moverse, e incluso pueden provocar la muerte. Si bien puede perderlo todo por un accidente cerebrovascular, tomar medidas rápidas a la primera señal puede ayudar con la recuperación y tener un impacto duradero. Desafortunadamente, casi el 30 % de los adultos menores de 45 años no conocen los cinco síntomas más comunes de un accidente cerebrovascular, según una investigación publicada en "Stroke" de la American Heart Association. Al mismo tiempo, los accidentes cerebrovasculares van en aumento en ese grupo de edad.

"Los jóvenes que no están familiarizados con los signos más comunes de un accidente cerebrovascular corren el riesgo de no actuar en un momento en el que cada segundo importa", dice Sheryl Martin-Schild, MD, PhD, directora médica de accidentes cerebrovasculares en Touro Infirmary. "Tanto la supervivencia como la recuperación del accidente cerebrovascular son posibles con la atención adecuada en el momento adecuado".

La atención médica inmediata depende de que todos aprendan y sean capaces de reconocer el inicio repentino de los signos y síntomas de un accidente cerebrovascular BE FAST en ellos mismos y en los demás y que llamen al 911 de inmediato. BE FAST significa Balance, Eyes, Face, Arm, Speech, Time y se refiere a estos signos de accidente cerebrovascular:

- **Equilibrio**: pérdida repentina del equilibrio
- **Ojos**: Pérdida de la visión en uno o ambos ojos
- **Cara**: la cara se ve desigual o caída
- **Brazo**: el brazo o la pierna están débiles o colgando hacia abajo
- **Habla**: dificultad para hablar, dificultad para hablar o parece confuso
- **Hora**: llamar inmediatamente al 911

Independientemente de la edad de una persona, comprender los factores de riesgo de accidente cerebrovascular también es vital, ya que algunos factores se pueden controlar con cambios en el estilo de vida. Estos factores de riesgo incluyen presión arterial alta, fibrilación auricular, colesterol alto, tabaquismo, diabetes, mala circulación, falta de actividad física y obesidad. Es importante que todos hablen con su proveedor de atención médica sobre el manejo seguro de estos factores a través de la dieta, el ejercicio y el abandono del hábito de fumar, en particular para aquellos con mayor riesgo debido a la edad (el riesgo aumenta a medida que envejece), la raza (afroamericanos, hispanos, y los asiáticos/isleños del Pacífico tienen un mayor riesgo de accidente cerebrovascular que las personas de otras razas), sexo (más mujeres tienen accidentes cerebrovasculares que hombres) y antecedentes familiares (el riesgo es mayor si un miembro de la familia ha tenido un accidente cerebrovascular).

"Según los CDC, el accidente cerebrovascular es una de las principales causas de discapacidad grave a largo plazo. Por lo tanto, es fundamental conocer las señales y actuar de inmediato", dice el Dr. Martin-Schild. "Es mucho mejor reaccionar que arrepentirse".

Para obtener más información y recursos, visite strokeawareness.com, desarrollado por Genentech Inc., miembro del Grupo Roche.

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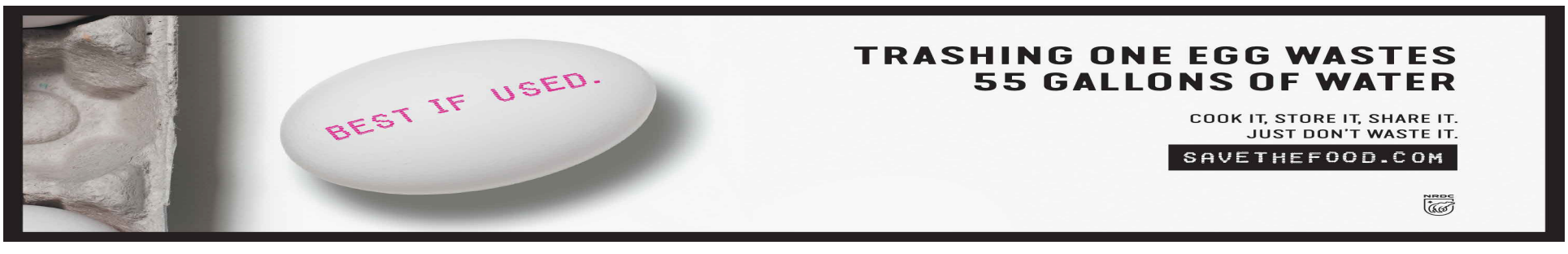

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